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APPLICANT: BRISON, Paul Stanley

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TITLE: APPARATUS AND METHOD OF POWER CONTROL

Amendment B: Claim Amendments

Claims 1-40 (canceled).

41. (new) A power controller comprising:

a casing; and

a control unit disposed within the casing being configurable to any of a plurality of modes of operation to control power delivery to a light and being responsive to a stimulus wirelessly conveyed thereto from outside the casing to configure to a selected mode of operation determined by the stimulus, the control unit being arranged to receive control signals wirelessly conveyed thereto from a remote unit located outside the casing and to control said power delivery according to the control signals wherein the response of the control unit to control signals differs according to the mode of operation determined by the stimulus,

wherein the control unit is responsive to said stimulus to configure to a programming mode in which it the control unit is responsive to said control signals to be programmed thereby to respond in a predetermined way to a predetermined operation of the remote unit.

42. (new) A power controller according to claim 41, wherein, when in the programming mode, the control unit is responsive to said control signals to be programmed to respond in a predetermined way to subsequent wireless stimuli to configure to a new mode of operation.

43. (new) A power controller according to claim 41, wherein the control unit is responsive to said stimulus to configure from a deactivated mode to an activated mode or vice versa, and wherein when the control unit is in said

activated mode, the control unit is responsive to said control signals to controllably deliver power to the light, and when the control unit is in said deactivated mode, the control unit does not deliver power to the light.

44. (new) A power controller according to claim 41, wherein the control unit further comprises a magnetic detector means, wherein said stimulus is comprised of a magnetic field strength in response to which the magnetic detector means is operable to generate a configure signal, and wherein the control unit is responsive to the configure signal to configure to a mode of operation determined by the configure signal.

45. (new) A power controller according to claim 44, further comprising:

a stimulus means remote from the control unit and outside said casing, and

a magnetic field means for providing a magnetic field of sufficient strength to be remotely detectable by the magnetic detector.

46. (new) A power controller according to Claim 44, wherein the control unit is configurable to a selected mode of operation according to any of: the duration of a given configure signal; the number of a succession of configure signals; the rate of receipt of successive configure signals thereby; the magnitude of a given configure signal.

47. (new) A power controller according to Claim 45, wherein the control unit is configurable to a selected mode of operation according to any of: the duration of a given configure signal; the number of a succession of configure signals; the rate of receipt of successive configure signals thereby; the magnitude of a given configure signal.

48. (new) A power controller according to claim 46, wherein the magnetic field means is comprised of a permanent magnet.

49. (new) A power controller according to Claim 47, wherein the magnetic field means is comprised of a permanent magnet.

50. (new) A power controller according to claim 44, wherein the magnetic detector means further comprises a sensor means being selected from a group being comprised of: a reed switch; a Hall-Effect switch, a magnetic relay switch; and an inductor coil, wherein the magnetic detector is responsive to said stimulus using the sensor means.

51. (new) A power controller according to claim 41, suitable for outdoor use, wherein the control unit is encased in a substantially watertight weather-proof casing.

52. (new) A power controller according to claim 41, wherein the casing is transparent.

53. (new) A power controller according to claim 41, wherein the control signals are conveyed using a selection from a group being comprised of: Infra-red (IR) light; microwaves; and radio waves.

54. (new) A power controller according to claim 41, wherein the control unit is configurable to a mode of operation, the control unit being responsive to said control signals to change the amount of electrical power delivered to the light in use to controllably vary the radiant output of the light.

55. (new) A power controller according to claim 41, wherein the control unit further comprises a photo-sensor means within the casing for determining the level of ambient illumination outside the casing, and for configuring the control unit to a mode of operation according to the ambient illumination level so determined.

56. (new) A power controller according to claim 41, further comprising:

a power source connector means arranged to connect to the power source from which the light receives power in use such that the power from the

power source passes through the power controller before reaching the light, wherein the power controller is arranged to control the delivery of power from the power source to the light.

57. (new) A power controller according to claim 56, wherein the casing comprises a plurality of prongs extending outwardly thereof and shaped to be intimately received within a reciprocally shaped socket means of the power source connector means such that the casing is detachably attachable to the power source connector means therewith, the prongs being operably connected to the control unit to convey power from the power source to the light via the control unit when the casing is attached to the power source connector means in use.

58. (new) A method of controlling power delivery to a light, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a power controller according to claim 41;

wirelessly conveying a stimulus to the power controller from outside the casing thereof to configure to a selected mode of operation determined by the stimulus; and

wirelessly conveying control signals to the controller from outside the casing to control said power delivery according to the control signals,

wherein said control signals are wirelessly transmitted to the control unit after configuring the power controller to a programming mode, the control unit being responsive to said control signals to be programmed thereby to respond in a predetermined way to subsequent control signals

59. (new) A method according to claim 58, wherein, when in the programming mode, the control unit is responsive to said control signals to be programmed to respond in a predetermined way to subsequent wireless stimuli to configure to a new mode of operation.

60. (new) A method according to claim 58, further comprising:

providing said stimulus to configure the control unit from a deactivated mode to an activated mode or vice versa, wherein when the control unit is in said activated mode, the control unit is responsive to said control signals to controllably deliver power to the light, and when the control unit is in said deactivated mode, the control unit does not deliver power to the light.

61. (new) A method according to claim 58, wherein the stimulus is a magnetic field strength, the method further comprising:

generating a configure signal using the control unit in response to the stimulus, and

configuring the control unit to a mode of operation determined by the configure signal.

62. (new) A method according to claim 61, further comprising:

configuring the control unit to a selected mode of operation according to any of: the duration of a given configure signal; the number of a succession of configure signals; the rate of receipt of successive configure signals thereby; the magnitude of a given configure signal.

63. (new) A method according to claim 58, further comprising:

configuring the control unit to a mode of operation, the control unit being responsive to control signals to change the amount of electrical power delivered to the light in use to controllably vary the radiant output of the light; and

wirelessly transmitting such control signals to the control unit.

64. (new) A method according to Claim 58, further comprising:

providing a photo-sensor within the casing for determining the level of ambient illumination outside the casing; and

configuring the control unit to a suitable mode of operation according to the ambient illumination level so determined.

65. (new) A method according to claim 58, further comprising:

connecting the control unit to the power source from which the light receives power in use;

directing the power from the power source through the control unit before reaching the light; and

controlling the delivery of power from the power source to the light using the control unit.

66. (new) A method according to claim 58, further comprising:

measuring the temperature of the control unit and configuring the control unit to a deactivated mode when the temperature is measured to exceed a predetermined value.